



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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The Northern California Olympians & Paralympians and the San Francisco Bay Area Sports Organizing Committee (BASOC) celebrate Olympic Day, June 23, 2018

Joining Olympians and Paralympians Around the World to Honor the Ideals of the Olympic Games

San Francisco Bay Area, CA, – The spirit of the Olympic Movement is alive and well in the San Francisco Bay Area, as the Bay Area Sports Organizing Committee (BASOC) and the Northern California Olympians and Paralympians (NCOPA) pause to reflect on the ideals of the Olympic movement.

Greg Massialas, Three Time Olympian (1980, 84, 88) and now U.S. Men’s Foil Olympic Coach explains, “It is great to have a world wide celebration of these Games which we all love – friendship, fair play, honoring your competition and peace.”

Anne Warner Cribbs, 1960 Olympian, President and CEO of the Bay Area Sports Organizing Committee, adds, “Olympians come in all shapes and all sizes – but each Olympian has a dream, creates a goal, works hard, is persistent and never gives up. On Olympic Day we are proud to stand with Olympians around the world, to support the Olympic Charter - educating youth through sport to build a better and more peaceful world.”

Though the years, the San Francisco Bay Area has hosted many International Olympic and Paralympic events. The University of California at Berkeley, Stanford University, Santa Clara and San Jose State have supported numerous Olympians and Paralympians. Over 500 Olympians and Paralympians chose to live, work, and play in the San Francisco Bay Area. From Table Tennis to Swimming, Track and Field to Rugby, Ice Skating to Soccer, Fencing, Basketball, Water Polo and more - Olympic and Paralympic athletes are respected and admired. San Jose State through the years has produced 76 Olympians. Over 343 United States, International,

Winter and Summer Olympians have attended University of California at Berkeley and hundreds more hail from Stanford University.

The San Francisco Bay Area, which has bid four times to bring the Olympic Games to the San Francisco Bay Area in 1996, 2012, 2016 and 2024 - is now supporting our colleagues in Los Angeles as they continue their plans to host the 2028 Olympic & Paralympic Games. This will be the first time the Olympic Games have been in the United States since 2002. There is a potential of a Winter Games Bid from California and Nevada in the future.

Around the world, more than 160 countries take part in the annual celebration of World Olympic Day, created in 1948 to commemorate the birth of the modern Olympic Games. This worldwide celebration aims to promote fitness, well-being, culture and education, while also observing the Olympic values of excellence, friendship and respect. The Olympic Day pillars – **move, learn and discover** – are promoted in every corner of the globe. Olympic Day creates opportunities for people to participate in sport across the globe regardless of age, gender or athletic ability.

For the entire month of June, Olympic Day Events – large and small - are taking place in the San Francisco Bay Area and include:

1. Saturday, June 9 - Massialas Fencing Clinic – 3 Time Olympian and current Men’s Foil Fencing National Coach conducted a fencing clinic and spoke about the values of Olympic Day. Photos at <https://www.facebook.com/search/str/gregory+massialas/stories-keyword/stories-public>

2. Saturday, June 9th BORP Youth Sports sponsored a Roll ‘n’ Shoot Wheelchair Basketball Tourney. This event supports the BORP Youth Sports Program. Headed up by 4 -Time Paralympian, Trooper Johnson, now Women’s National Team Head Coach and BORP Youth Sports Program Coordinator. trooper@borp.org

3. Friday, June 22 -South Beach Yacht Club - Northern California Olympians and Paralympians will take part in events sponsored by the South Beach Yacht Club (SBYC) in San Francisco. Junior Summer Sailing Camp Friday Midday Race and BBQ - Olympians race with and or talk to the kids about being an Olympian at 1:30pm SBYC Members are welcome to visit with Olympians 3 – 5 pm.. Race is 11:00 am to 1:30pm. BBQ for kids is 2-4pm. Location - The Embarcadero, SB Harbor between Pier 40 and San Francisco Giants Ballpark. Also on June 22, Olympians are invited to Crew in the Friday Nite Races - About 40 boats will race 4-6 courses at 6pm - finish by 8:00pm and we will be celebrating the Olympic Spirit in all. Sign-up/rsvp membership@southbeachyachtclub.org

4. Saturday, June 23 – San Francisco Giants, the Northern California Olympians and Paralympians and San Francisco Bay Area Sports Organizing Committee’s (BASOC) 18th Annual Olympic Day at the San Francisco Giants. For more info www.basoc.org

5. Saturday, June 30 - The Pacific Weightlifting Association (PWA) will be honoring Olympic

Day at a local weightlifting competition at Lincoln High School, 2162 24th Ave, San Francisco.. The competition, the *Hassie Free Barbell Club Summer Breaker* starts at 10am and goes until 7pm. PWA Olympic Weightlifting Team Members, who live in the Bay Area, Bruce Wilhelm, Ken Clark, David Langon and Butch Curry have been invited to attend.

The goal of Olympic Day is to celebrate the mission of the Games as stated in the Olympic Charter: “to educate youth through sport, embodying the Spirit of excellence, respect, fellowship and integrity in order to build a better, more peaceful world.”

For more information on Olympic Day in the San Francisco Bay Area, contact NCOPA Olympic Day Coordinator Charlie Altekruise, 510.913.3669 calkruse@caconsult.org or Anne Warner Cribbs 415.264.2067 acribbs@basoc.org